

Briefing from U.S. Census Reports for 1999 & 2000

This briefing is based on two U.S. Census Bureau reports titled (1) *Blacks in the United States March 1999* and *The Black Population: 2000*. Each report provides slightly different demographic data. For example, the 1999 report contained data on educational attainment by race and sex, that was not contained in their report *The Black Population: 2000*. Therefore data is presented here from both reports interchangeably to provide readers a full perspective.

The U.S. total population in the year 2000 was 281.4 million. African Americans accounted for 36.4 million of this total, representing approximately 13 percent of the population. The U.S. Census Bureau reports on the status of African Americans cover education, immigration, income and poverty, families, population distribution, jobs, and home ownership. Overall, the reports show college enrollment for African Americans increased remarkably over a decade. There are 2 million immigrants of African descent in the United States. The poverty rate for African Americans remained at its lowest in 40 years. Most African Americans live in southern states. More women than men occupy managerial positions. Nearly half of the African American population are married and own their home.

Education

In 1999, the Bureau found that the majority of adult African Americans had completed high school. Seventy-seven percent of them in the age range of 25 years or older had done so. College enrollment among African Americans increased by 50 percent from 1990 to 2000. Sixteen percent of African American women have a bachelor's degree compared to 14 percent of men from this group. For comparison with other groups, please see page 5a:4 Graph #1, showing educational attainment by sex and race.

Jobs

More African American women (24%) than men (17%) were employed in managerial or professional occupations in 1999. There were 84,000 African American engineers, 36,000 physicians, and 36,000 lawyers in 1999. As of January 2001, African Americans represented 3.6 percent of the total population of lawyers (973, 000) in the U.S.

Coming to America—Immigration

Two million people are foreign-born African Americans. This figure represents eight percent of the African American population. The majority of foreign-born African Americans immigrated to the U.S from Latin American (80%) and Caribbean nations.

Income and Poverty

Twenty-eight percent of African American families reported an income of \$50,000 or more. Twenty-six percent of them had incomes that fell in the poverty index and are classified as poor. The Historical Income Tables for U.S. Census 2000 shows the median household income for African Americans was \$34, 204, compared to \$56, 442 for whites, and \$35,050 for Hispanics. This income was the highest for African Americans since Census reporting began in 1959.

Families

There were 8.4 million African American families in 1999, and 47 percent were married-couple families. Sixty-six percent of African American families had children under the age of 18 in 1989 compared to 50 percent for white families. Four million African-American children lived with both parents (36%), and others resided with grandparents or a single-parent.

Population Distribution

As mentioned above, the African American population totaled 34.9 million in 2000 (13% of the U.S. total). There was a 14 percent increase in the number of African Americans from 1990 to 1999. This growth is four percentage points higher than the growth rate for the total population in the U.S. for the same period (which grew by 10%). African Americans are projected to increase in number to 59 million by 2050 and will then constitute 15% of the U.S. population.

Most African Americans live in metropolitan areas in the South. Nine of the ten cities with the highest percentage of African Americans are (1) Gary, Indiana, (2) Birmingham, Alabama, (3) Jackson, Mississippi, (4) New Orleans, Louisiana, (5) Baltimore, Maryland, (6) Atlanta, Georgia, (7) Memphis, Tennessee, (8) Washington, D.C., and (9) Richmond, Virginia. A northern city with a high percentage of African Americans is Detroit, Michigan. Please see Graph #2, page 5a:4, showing the cities with the highest percentage of African Americans.

Ten states that have the largest number of African Americans are New York (3.2 million), California (2.5 million), Texas (2.4 million), Florida (2.3 million), Georgia (2.2 million), Illinois (1.8), North Carolina (1.7 million), and Maryland, Louisiana, and Michigan had 1.4 million each. Please see Table 1, page 5a:5, showing African American population by state and region. Also see U.S. Map, page 5a:6, showing African American percentage population by country.

Home ownership

In 1999, 46% of African Americans owned the house or apartment where they lived. This represents a five percent increase since 1995.

Sources:

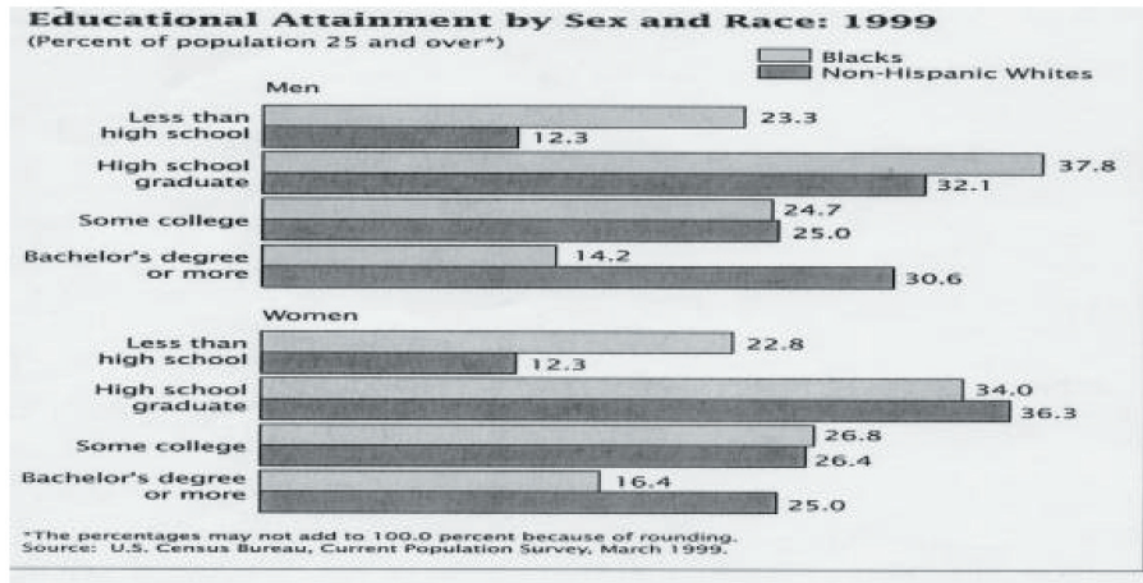
The Black Population in the United States, March 1999. U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. U.S. Census Bureau

The Black Population: 2000. U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. U.S. Census Bureau

The graphs, table and map are taken from U.S. Census 2000; see printed version for web site address.

U.S. Census Graphs

Graph #1: Excerpt from U.S. Census Report 1999—Educational Attainment by Sex and Race



Graph #2: Excerpt from U.S. Census Report 2000—Cities with the Highest Percentage of African Americans

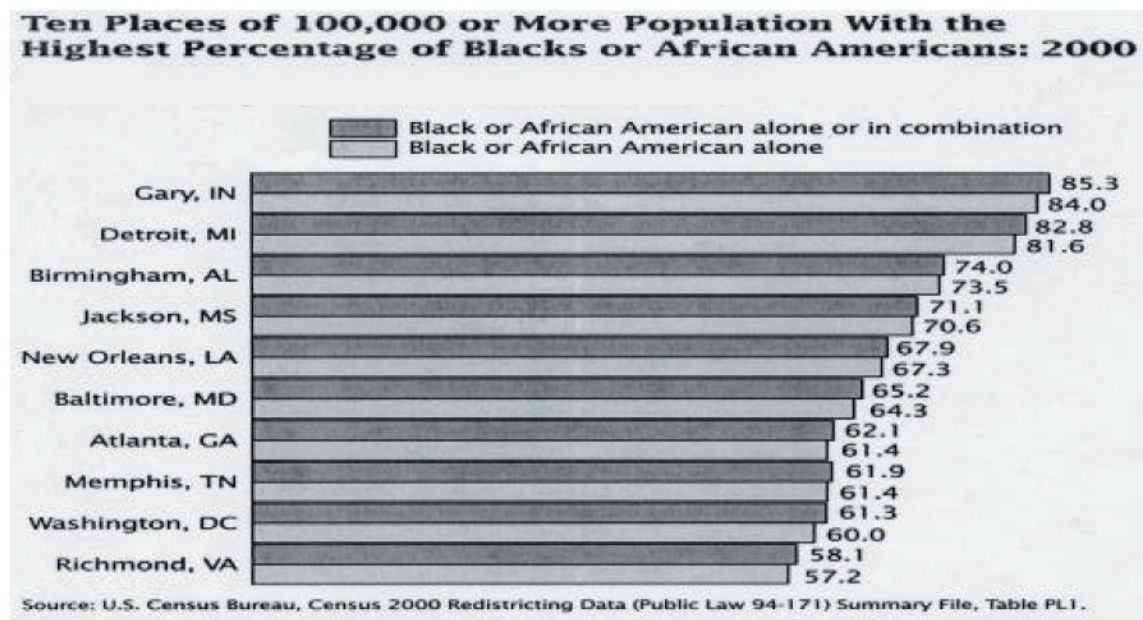


Table 1: Excerpt from U.S. Census Report 2000—African American Population by State and Region

| Black or African American Population for the United States, Regions, and States, and for Puerto Rico: 1990 and 2000 | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|
| Area | 1990 | | | 2000 | | | | | |
| | Total population | Black or African American population | | Total population | Black or African American alone population | | Black or African American alone or in combination population | | Black or African American in combination population only as a percent of Black or African American alone or in combination population |
| | | Number | Percent of total population | | Number | Percent of total population | Number | Percent of total population | |
| United States | 248,709,873 | 29,980,996 | 12.1 | 281,421,906 | 34,658,190 | 12.3 | 36,419,434 | 12.9 | 4.8 |
| Region | | | | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 50,809,229 | 5,613,222 | 11.0 | 53,594,378 | 6,099,881 | 11.4 | 6,556,909 | 12.2 | 7.0 |
| Midwest | 59,668,632 | 5,715,940 | 9.6 | 64,392,776 | 6,499,733 | 10.1 | 6,838,669 | 10.6 | 5.0 |
| South | 85,445,930 | 15,828,888 | 18.5 | 100,236,820 | 18,981,692 | 18.9 | 19,528,231 | 19.5 | 2.8 |
| West | 52,786,082 | 2,828,010 | 5.4 | 63,197,932 | 3,076,884 | 4.9 | 3,495,625 | 5.5 | 12.0 |
| State | | | | | | | | | |
| Alabama | 4,040,587 | 1,020,705 | 25.3 | 4,447,100 | 1,155,930 | 26.0 | 1,168,998 | 26.3 | 1.1 |
| Alaska | 550,043 | 22,451 | 4.1 | 626,932 | 21,787 | 3.5 | 27,147 | 4.3 | 19.7 |
| Arizona | 3,665,228 | 110,524 | 3.0 | 5,130,632 | 158,873 | 3.1 | 185,599 | 3.6 | 14.4 |
| Arkansas | 2,350,725 | 373,912 | 15.9 | 2,873,400 | 418,950 | 15.7 | 427,152 | 16.0 | 1.9 |
| California | 29,760,021 | 2,208,801 | 7.4 | 33,871,648 | 2,263,882 | 6.7 | 2,513,041 | 7.4 | 9.9 |
| Colorado | 3,294,394 | 133,146 | 4.0 | 4,301,261 | 165,063 | 3.8 | 190,717 | 4.4 | 13.5 |
| Connecticut | 3,287,116 | 274,289 | 8.3 | 3,405,565 | 309,843 | 9.1 | 339,078 | 10.0 | 8.6 |
| Delaware | 666,168 | 112,480 | 16.9 | 783,600 | 150,666 | 19.2 | 157,152 | 20.1 | 4.1 |
| District of Columbia | 606,900 | 399,604 | 65.8 | 572,059 | 343,312 | 60.0 | 350,455 | 61.3 | 2.0 |
| Florida | 12,937,926 | 1,759,534 | 13.6 | 15,982,378 | 2,335,505 | 14.6 | 2,471,730 | 15.5 | 5.5 |
| Georgia | 6,478,216 | 1,746,565 | 27.0 | 8,186,453 | 2,349,542 | 28.7 | 2,393,425 | 29.2 | 1.8 |
| Hawaii | 1,108,229 | 27,195 | 2.5 | 1,211,537 | 22,003 | 1.8 | 33,343 | 2.8 | 34.0 |
| Idaho | 1,006,749 | 3,370 | 0.3 | 1,293,953 | 5,456 | 0.4 | 8,127 | 0.6 | 32.9 |
| Illinois | 11,430,602 | 1,694,273 | 14.8 | 12,419,293 | 1,876,875 | 15.1 | 1,937,671 | 15.6 | 3.1 |
| Indiana | 5,544,159 | 432,092 | 7.8 | 6,080,485 | 510,034 | 8.4 | 538,015 | 8.8 | 5.2 |
| Iowa | 2,776,755 | 48,090 | 1.7 | 2,926,324 | 61,853 | 2.1 | 72,512 | 2.5 | 14.7 |
| Kansas | 2,477,574 | 143,076 | 5.8 | 2,688,418 | 154,198 | 5.7 | 170,610 | 6.3 | 9.6 |
| Kentucky | 3,685,296 | 262,907 | 7.1 | 4,041,799 | 295,994 | 7.3 | 311,878 | 7.7 | 5.1 |
| Louisiana | 4,219,973 | 1,299,281 | 30.8 | 4,468,976 | 1,451,944 | 32.5 | 1,468,317 | 32.9 | 1.1 |
| Maine | 1,227,928 | 5,138 | 0.4 | 1,274,923 | 6760 | 0.5 | 9,553 | 0.7 | 29.2 |
| Maryland | 4,781,468 | 1,189,899 | 24.9 | 5,296,486 | 1,477,411 | 27.9 | 1,525,036 | 28.8 | 3.1 |
| Massachusetts | 6,018,425 | 300,130 | 5.0 | 6,349,087 | 343,454 | 5.4 | 398,479 | 6.3 | 13.8 |
| Michigan | 9,295,297 | 1,291,706 | 13.9 | 9,938,444 | 1,412,742 | 14.2 | 1,474,613 | 14.8 | 4.2 |
| Minnesota | 4,375,099 | 94,944 | 2.2 | 4,919,479 | 171,731 | 3.5 | 202,972 | 4.1 | 15.4 |
| Mississippi | 2,573,216 | 915,057 | 35.6 | 2,844,658 | 1,033,809 | 36.3 | 1,041,708 | 36.6 | 0.8 |
| Missouri | 5,117,073 | 548,208 | 10.7 | 5,595,211 | 629,391 | 11.2 | 655,377 | 11.7 | 4.0 |
| Montana | 799,065 | 2,381 | 0.3 | 902,195 | 2,692 | 0.3 | 4,441 | 0.5 | 39.4 |
| Nebraska | 1,578,385 | 57,404 | 3.6 | 1,711,283 | 68,541 | 4.0 | 75,833 | 4.4 | 9.6 |
| Nevada | 1,201,833 | 78,771 | 6.6 | 1,998,257 | 135,477 | 6.8 | 150,508 | 7.5 | 10.0 |
| New Hampshire | 1,109,252 | 7,198 | 0.6 | 1,235,786 | 9,035 | 0.7 | 12,218 | 1.0 | 26.1 |
| New Jersey | 7,730,188 | 1,036,825 | 13.4 | 8,414,350 | 1,141,821 | 13.6 | 1,211,750 | 14.4 | 5.8 |
| New Mexico | 1,515,069 | 30,210 | 2.0 | 1,819,046 | 34,343 | 1.9 | 42,412 | 2.3 | 19.0 |
| New York | 17,990,455 | 2,850,055 | 15.9 | 18,976,457 | 3,014,385 | 15.9 | 3,234,165 | 17.0 | 6.8 |
| North Carolina | 6,628,637 | 1,456,323 | 22.0 | 8,049,313 | 1,737,545 | 21.6 | 1,776,283 | 22.1 | 2.2 |
| North Dakota | 638,800 | 3,524 | 0.6 | 642,200 | 3,916 | 0.6 | 5,372 | 0.8 | 27.1 |
| Ohio | 10,847,115 | 1,154,826 | 10.6 | 11,353,140 | 1,301,307 | 11.5 | 1,372,501 | 12.1 | 5.2 |
| Oklahoma | 3,145,585 | 233,801 | 7.4 | 3,450,654 | 260,968 | 7.6 | 284,766 | 8.3 | 8.4 |
| Oregon | 2,842,321 | 46,178 | 1.6 | 3,421,399 | 55,662 | 1.6 | 72,647 | 2.1 | 23.4 |
| Pennsylvania | 11,881,643 | 1,089,795 | 9.2 | 12,281,054 | 1,224,612 | 10.0 | 1,289,123 | 10.5 | 5.0 |
| Rhode Island | 1,003,464 | 38,861 | 3.9 | 1,048,319 | 46,908 | 4.5 | 58,051 | 5.5 | 19.2 |
| South Carolina | 3,486,703 | 1,039,884 | 29.8 | 4,012,012 | 1,185,216 | 29.5 | 1,200,901 | 29.9 | 1.3 |
| South Dakota | 696,004 | 3,258 | 0.5 | 754,844 | 4,685 | 0.6 | 6,687 | 0.9 | 29.9 |
| Tennessee | 4,577,185 | 778,035 | 16.0 | 5,689,283 | 932,809 | 16.4 | 953,349 | 16.8 | 2.2 |
| Texas | 16,986,510 | 2,021,632 | 11.9 | 20,851,820 | 2,404,566 | 11.5 | 2,493,057 | 12.0 | 3.5 |
| Utah | 1,722,850 | 11,576 | 0.7 | 2,233,169 | 17,657 | 0.8 | 24,382 | 1.1 | 27.6 |
| Vermont | 562,758 | 1,951 | 0.3 | 608,827 | 3,063 | 0.5 | 4,492 | 0.7 | 31.8 |
| Virginia | 6,187,358 | 1,162,994 | 18.8 | 7,078,515 | 1,390,293 | 19.6 | 1,441,207 | 20.4 | 3.5 |
| Washington | 4,866,692 | 149,801 | 3.1 | 5,894,121 | 190,267 | 3.5 | 238,398 | 4.4 | 20.2 |
| West Virginia | 1,793,477 | 56,295 | 3.1 | 1,808,344 | 57,232 | 3.2 | 62,817 | 3.5 | 8.9 |
| Wisconsin | 4,891,769 | 244,539 | 5.0 | 5,363,675 | 304,460 | 5.7 | 326,506 | 6.1 | 6.8 |
| Wyoming | 453,588 | 3,606 | 0.8 | 493,782 | 3,722 | 0.8 | 4,863 | 1.0 | 23.5 |
| Puerto Rico | 3,522,037 | (X) | (X) | 3,808,610 | 302,933 | 8.0 | 416,296 | 10.9 | 27.2 |

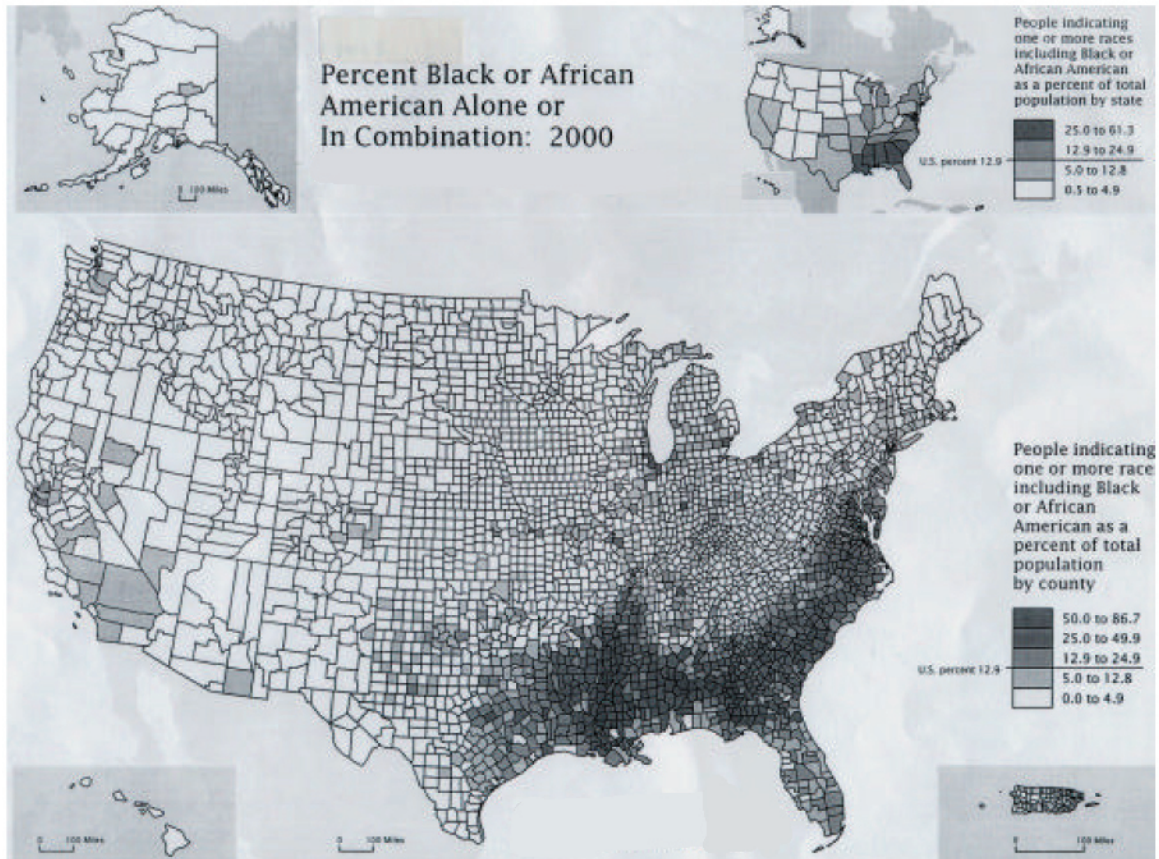
Source:

U.S. Census Report 2000

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Map Excerpt from U.S. Census Report 2000

Map #1: African American Percentage Population by Country



Source:

U.S. Census Report 2000

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